

To the Honorable Members of the Public Health Committee:

I **OPPOSE** S.B. No. 477 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PUBLIC HEALTH OF RESIDENTS OF THE STATE because I believe that any commission that is established will likely be biased against the rights of the legal owners of firearms that have never committed a crime.

In addition, I also **OPPOSE** H.B. No. 5397 AN ACT DECLARING GUN VIOLENCE A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS AND ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION.

- While I agree that violent crime is a terrible thing, why are we not addressing prevention of ALL violence? Is it any less traumatic for a child (or adult) to see a loved one stabbed, strangled or beaten instead of shot?
- Consider that a 200-pound man does not need a firearm to subject a 120-pound woman to all manner of violence. If she is able to successfully defend herself (and perhaps also her children) from such an attack using a firearm, would your proposed database include her as a contributor to “gun violence”?
- There is no membership in the advisory council proposed for legal owners of firearms. Note that the State constitution explicitly gives every citizen “the right to bear arms in defense of himself and the State.” This is a legal right which should have the opportunity for support on a council like this.

I appreciate having the opportunity to let you know where I stand on these issues.

Respectfully,

Ann Bogucki

East Hartford, CT

C: Representative Jason Rojas

Senator Saud Anwar